

Front Page	Page	Other Page
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Admiral Raborn— New Man at CIA

Vice Admiral William F. Raborn, Jr., now retired, has been tapped to run the Central Intelligence Agency.

Why the change, a change which President Johnson called "of great importance" for the country?

Teamed with Raborn as his deputy is McGarrah Helms, an old hand at serving as a foreman for crews of spies as well as being versed in today's computer techniques.

The current C.I.A. chief, John A. McCone, has been wanting to step down for some time. This newspaper's Washington bureau reported that he feels his main job, achieving some kind of internal administrative order in an agency that had grown in all ways like topsy with huge sums at hand and little outside criticism, had come to an end.

Allen Dulles, his predecessor, known as a master spy but not much of a master at administration, hadn't kept check. Thus the McCone appointment.

Raborn is described as a soft sell administrator.

Before retiring from the Navy he had put in the Navy's ballistic missile systems that led to the Polaris armed submarines. Since then, he has been project manager for Aerojet General Corp. in California.

His techniques are in great demand within the CIA, we're informed not only by our Washington staff, but according to evidence we've ferreted from newsmen "in the field."

Here's what Malcolm W. Browne reports from Viet Nam, where he has served as Associated Press correspondent since 1961 (he was a Pulitzer prize co-winner last year) in his book, "The New Face of War," about U.S. intelligence in South Viet Nam: Asia:

"Most Americans in Viet Nam realize that this is a very peculiar kind of war, in which it isn't enough to shoot the enemy . . .

"More needed to be known about this peculiar enemy, and American intelligence organizations began to proliferate. First, there was the C.I.A. From its headquarters on the second floor of the embassy in Saigon, the C.I.A.'s 200 or so agents were divided into three groups: administrators and analysts, field observers, and infiltrators. The infiltrators were (and are) the only secret operatives of the agency. They have joined every other American official agency, they have assumed covers as civilian contractors, and, for all I know, there may even be a C.I.A. foreign correspondent.

"Closely allied to the C.I.A. was the military Combined Studies Group, which administered the whole Special Forces (especially trained, U.S. Army, anti-guerrilla troops, organized to operate in small units alone) program.

"The U.S. Aid mission set up an intelligence group, working with its civilian police advisers. The U.S. Information Service set up an intelligence group. The U.S. Army set up the 704th Military Intelligence Detachment, which dabbles in all kinds of things. The Provost Marshal's office had an intelligence outfit. The Army created another intelligence unit for 'strategic intelligence.' At a lower level, the Army has put into operation a 'sector intelligence' unit at every one of the scores of American advisory detachments throughout South Viet Nam. Even the U.S. Navy, which has only a minuscule presence in Viet Nam (the Navy is running the Vietnamese armed junk patrol fleet) brought in a little intel-

ligence unit. And the U.S. embassy's security section was involved all along in political intelligence.

"Scores of airplanes—twin-engine German Dorniers, American C46s, single-engine L28 'Heliocouriers,' and others, all of them completely unmarked—fly this army of spooks around the country.

"But it is not one big, happy family. American competitive free enterprise prevails, and none of the agencies I have named is willing to cooperate with the others on a regular basis.

"Each maintains fierce unit esprit, and takes enormous pride in its intelligence scoops. Information is very often closely concealed from competing American agencies, because of the danger that the competitors may pirate the material and report it to headquarters first, getting the credit . . ."

Admiral Raborn will have to put to work every administrative skill he possesses to chart a productive course through this administrative morass.

He has some help . . . 25,000 other employees and \$1 billion each year.

It is redundant to report the vital value of intelligence to this country's and to Viet Nam's security. Its production and its evaluation could, literally, spell peace or war.

The ship that Admiral Raborn is about to be piped aboard is no sine-cure.

Johnson called Raborn's appointment "of great importance."